

REMARKS

The Examiner rejected claims 14-27 as being anticipated by Figure 1A of United States Patent No. 6,361,206. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection. United States Patent No. 6,361,206 does not disclose a domed portion including a sealing surface on the outside wall of the tube surrounding the lateral access opening. Instead, the structure shown in United States Patent No. 6,361,206 resembles the structures shown discussed in the specification at pages 2-3 in which a bushing is welded laterally to the tube and forms a lateral access.

Furthermore, claim 14 recites that the sensor is in direct contact with the fluid in the tube. In Figure 1 of United States Patent No. 6,361,206, the sensor chip 4 is embedded in isolating gel 11, and the sensor chip 4 is not in direct contact with the fluid in the tube. Moreover, claim 14 requires a lateral access opening and a domed portion including a sealing surface on said outside wall of said tube surrounding said lateral access opening and a sensor sealingly disposed on said sealing surface. Fig. 1 of United States Patent No. 6,361,206 shows the pressure sensor chip 4 situated outside the wall of the tube and in a bushing laterally attached to the side of the tube, and the sensor is not sealingly disposed on the outside wall of the tube. The opening shown in Fig. 1 of United States Patent No. 6,361,206 can hardly be considered a lateral opening and since the sealing surface is in the wall of bushing, it cannot be said to be on the outside wall of the tube, as recited in claim 14. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit the claims are patentable over the cited reference.

In addition, United States Patent No. 6,361,206 does not disclose or suggest an apparatus that includes a sensor for measuring the property of a fluid that includes temperature, flow velocity, pressure and conductivity. United States Patent No. 6,361,206 appears to be limited for use as only a pressure sensor.

In view of the foregoing remarks, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and early notice to this effect is earnestly solicited. If allowance of this application may be expedited by resolution of simple issues through a telephone conference, the Examiner is welcome to call the undersigned.

Application No.: 09/980,066

Docket No.: GAMBRO 3.3-258

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

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Respectfully submitted,

By  _____

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